

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111
U.S. Application No.: 10/830,044
Attorney Docket No.: Q80791

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An ink-jet recording medium comprising a support having disposed thereon at least one colorant-receiving layer,

~~wherein an undercoat layer containing an inorganic laminar compound having an aspect ratio of 100 or more is provided under the colorant receiving layer, and/or wherein~~ a back-coat layer containing an inorganic laminar compound having an aspect ratio of 100 or more is provided on a surface opposite to a surface of the support having the colorant-receiving layer;

wherein the laminar compound is water-swellable synthetic mica; and

wherein the colorant-receiving layer contains a water-soluble resin.

2. (original): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the support includes a paper substrate, and a surface of the paper substrate at a side having the colorant-receiving layer has an ink solvent-absorbing property.

3. (original): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 2, wherein the paper substrate contains an acacia kraft pulp.

4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 1,
~~wherein the undercoat layer and/or the back-coat layer contains a water-soluble resin.~~

6. (original): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 5, wherein the water-soluble resin is a polyvinyl alcohol-type resin and/or gelatin.

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7. (canceled)

8. (previously presented): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the water-soluble resin contained in the colorant-receiving layer is at least one selected from the group consisting of a polyvinyl alcohol-type resin, a cellulose-type resin, an ether bond-containing resin, a carbamoyl group-containing resin, a carboxyl group-containing resin, and gelatin.

9. (previously presented): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the colorant-receiving layer contains fine particles having an average primary particle diameter of 2 μm or less.

10. (original): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 9, wherein the fine particles are at least one kind of particles selected from the group consisting of silica fine particles, colloidal silica, alumina fine particles and pseudo-bohemite.

11. (original): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 5, wherein the colorant-receiving layer contains 1 to 40% by mass of the water-soluble resin relative to a total solid content of the colorant-receiving layer.

12. (original): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the back-coat layer contains any one selected from the group consisting of a pigment, a metal soap, a wax, and a waterproof agent.

13. (original): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 12, wherein the pigment is selected from the group consisting of kaolin, sintered kaolin, talc, agalmatolite, diatomaceous earth, calcium carbonate, aluminum hydroxide, magnesium hydroxide, zinc oxide, lithopone, amorphous silica, colloidal silica, sintered gypsum, silica, magnesium carbonate,

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titanium oxide, alumina, barium carbonate, barium sulfate, mica, micro-balloon, urea-formalin filler, polyester particles, and cellulose filler.

14. (original): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 12, wherein the metal soap is selected from the group consisting of zinc stearate, aluminum stearate, calcium stearate, and zinc oleate.

15. (original): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 12, wherein the wax is selected from the group consisting of paraffin wax, polyethylene wax, carnauba wax, microcrystalline wax, candelilla wax, montan wax, and fatty acid amide wax.

16. (original): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the back-coat layer has a thickness of 0.2 to 20 μm .

17. (original): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the support has a thickness in terms of basis weight of 50 to 250 g/m^2 .

18. (original): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 5, wherein the colorant-receiving layer contains 50% by mass or more of the fine particles relative to a total solid content of the colorant-receiving layer.

19. (original): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the colorant-receiving layer contains at least one mordant selected from polyallylamine and the derivatives thereof, and polyvinylamine and the derivatives thereof.

20. (original): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 1, further comprising an additive selected from the group consisting of an ultraviolet absorber, antioxidant, fluorescent brightening agent, monomers, polymerization initiator, polymerization inhibitor, blurring

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inhibitor, preservative, viscosity stabilizer, defoamer, surfactant, destaticizing agent, matting agent, curl preventive agent, and waterproof agent.

21. (previously presented): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the colorant-receiving layer further comprises a cross-linking agent capable of cross-linking the water-soluble resin.

22. (previously presented): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 21, wherein the cross-linking agent is a boron compound.

23. (new): The ink-jet recording medium according to claim 1, further comprising an undercoat layer provided under the colorant-receiving layer, the undercoat layer containing an inorganic laminar compound having an aspect ratio of 100 or more.

24. (new): The ink-jet recording medium according to Claim 23, wherein the undercoat layer contains a water-soluble resin.

25. (new): The ink-jet recording medium according to Claim 24, wherein the water-soluble resin is a polyvinyl alcohol-type resin and/or gelatin.

26. (new) The ink-jet recording medium according to Claim 24, wherein the colorant-receiving layer contains 1 to 40% by mass of the water-soluble resin relative to a total solid content of the colorant-receiving layer.

27. (new): The ink-jet recording medium according to Claim 24, wherein the colorant-receiving layer contains 50% by mass or more of the fine particles relative to a total solid content of the colorant-receiving layer.